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# Edmonton metro



RAINN WILSON PLAYS HIS COMEDIC INSTRUMENT **metroLIFE**



Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

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## TRUDEAU'S CABINET

### With Sohi, Edmonton gets in



Tim Querengesser  
Metro | Edmonton

For Edmonton, Amarjeet Sohi in cabinet means the city has a seat and that cities have a voice.

On Wednesday, Trudeau named Sohi minister of infrastructure and communities, putting him in charge of the Liberals' ambitious plan to spend billions on transit and other projects in municipalities.

Sohi's story is a Canadian one: He immigrated to Edmonton from India, worked as a bus driver and then ran for — and won — a seat on city council.

"I truly feel honoured and humbled that Prime Minister Trudeau has given me this opportunity to be part of a great team of Canadians," Sohi said, after his appointment. "The story of Canada is about people like me who are given the right opportunities at the right time."

Trudeau appointed Sohi and Calgary MP Kent Hehr to cabinet, giving Alberta two posts.

WITH FILES FROM RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

# Canada's leader

Trudeau makes pledge to the people on historic day



metroNEWS

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his family lead the new Liberal cabinet to Rideau Hall in Ottawa on Wednesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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USE OF FORCE

Watchdog examines inmate complaints



Andrea Ross  
Metro | Edmonton

Canada's top corrections investigator is closely watching the Edmonton Institution for Women after receiving several inmate complaints about force used at the federal penitentiary.

The complaints stem from a series of incidents between Oct. 30 and 31, in which property was damaged, guards deployed pepper spray and an inmate suffered self-inflicted injuries, Correctional Investigator of Canada Howard Sapers said.

"Whenever there's a use of force, particularly a use of force in a women's institution that involves any form of weapon including (pepper) spray, we're very interested in finding out the circumstances of that," Sapers said.

Sapers said his office will interview prison staff and inmates, and the information gathered will be scrutinized to determine if there were compliance or procedural issues.

The prison has room for 167 inmates and is operating "pretty much at capacity," Sapers said. He said that limits the ability to separate incompatible inmates and to deal with interpersonal conflict. Sapers could not elaborate on the specifics of what happened at the Edmonton Institution for Women but said similar events at crowded women's institutions aren't "unusual."

A Knack for winter cycling

Coun. Andrew Knack had never considered biking through the winter until he was elected. Now he's an expert. Here are his tips on how to ride 365.
BRAEDEN JONES METRO



KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

1 EQUIPMENT

"Have the right accessories for the bike," Knack says. "Studded tires go a long way to gain confidence.... Good lights, because it gets dark when you're riding home from work.... And (fenders) to keep the slush off you."

2 CLOTHING

"You're going to get hot about five minutes into your ride," Knack says. "Your giant jacket better be easily undone.... It's equally important you do have a wind breaker. If your (outer layer) doesn't stop the wind, you're frozen."

3 PACING

"Slush can be more slippery than ice," Knack says. "The key is don't go fast but don't go incredibly slow. Your bike needs to go fast enough you get through it but (slow enough) you can still swerve."

4 TIME

"Give yourself an extra 10 to 15 minutes," Knack says. "Be willing to set aside some time to get to and from, especially the first couple of rides (to time it out)."

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**IN BRIEF****Pair found dead in parked car declared homicide**

Edmonton police say two people found dead in a parked car Friday are victims of homicide.

Autopsies completed Tuesday show Daniel Fullerton and Dianna Wilk, both 28, died from gunshot wounds.

The pair were found Friday at around 7:40 p.m. in the front seat of a car parked in a residential neighbourhood near 173 Street and 11 Avenue. Police called to the area after someone passing by the vehicle noticed the bodies.

Their deaths were initially declared suspicious. Wilk's friend April Pinder said the 28-year-old was the youngest of three girls and wanted to return to school to become a forensic scientist.

"There are so many unanswered questions and I hope they find out who did this to her," Pinder said.

ANDREA ROSS/METRO

**Arundee Singh enters Edmonton Ward 12 race**

With former councillor Amarjeet Sohi taking a cabinet post in Ottawa, another person has joined the race to fill his former seat on council.

Arundee Singh announced he will contest the Ward 12 council seat Wednesday. He praised Sohi's efforts in the ward, but hopes to bring a new voice.

"I think it's time for a fresh perspective," he said.

Singh, who currently works in his family's gravel trucking business, said he has a strong connection to the area and that he's worried by spending in the city.

"I am hearing from a lot of people that a 4.9 per cent (tax) increase is kind of a hard pill to swallow," he said. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO



Children enjoy painting as part of the Green Shack program in Edmonton. COURTESY CITY OF EDMONTON

# Stepping forward — without a grant

**EMPLOYMENT**

## City won't use STEP funding to support Green Shack



**Braeden Jones**  
Metro | Edmonton

The city is taking a "once bitten, twice shy" approach to a jobs program the NDP re-introduced in its recent provincial budget.

On Tuesday, the Alberta government proudly announced it's reinstating the Summer Tem-

porary Employment Program (STEP) for 2016. But, having watched the program "abruptly dissolve" two years ago, the city isn't counting on it for the future.

City spokeswoman Dawn Makarowski said that prior to STEP money disappearing in 2013, the program provided about \$255,000 to Green Shacks, which are free drop-in camps in Edmonton parks.

"After the dissolution of STEP in 2013, we changed the Green Shack model to no longer be reliant on employment grants," Makarowski said.

"The city is not looking to reinstate the use of STEP."

The Green Shack program began as a partnership between the city and community leagues — with community leagues sourcing funding from STEP and a federal job program.

But in 2013, after Alberta slashed funding, the city took on more of the cost and the Green Shack program was scaled back.

Moving forward, the city will keep funding the program, with some room for community league initiative.

"Community leagues do have the opportunity to make small contributions if they want to, but that would be money raised through their own efforts, not

**+ JOB PROGRAMS**

The Green Shack program offers free recreational opportunities for children aged six to 12 in most neighbourhoods across the city. In 2015, there were 247,000 visits to 224 Green Shack programs across the city.

from external (government grants)," Makarowski said.

"We wanted a more self-sustaining model so we don't go through those ups and downs we have no control over."

**POLICY**

## Climate Notley's priority

Premier Rachel Notley says her government hopes to release substantial parts of its climate-change policy about one week before she leaves later this month for a global conference in Paris.

Notley said the province's plan will include very significant changes that will put Alberta on what she calls a progressive and balanced path forward.

"We are going to do what we think we can do to improve our record in a way that not only supports Albertans but supports Albertans for generations to come," she said Wednesday.

"But we are going to also do that in a balanced way that allows the industry to be healthy and prosperous."

"Not only does our economy depend on this but so frankly does the whole country's."

The United Nations summit on climate change is to take place in the French capital from Nov. 30 to Dec. 11.

The meeting is aimed at negotiating targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions beyond 2020.

Notley said Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has talked about different provinces coming up with their own climate change plans.

She said it remains to be seen how close Alberta's targets will mesh with any federal plan.



**Not only does our economy depend on this but so frankly does the whole country's.**

Premier Rachel Notley

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KEYSTONE XL

## U.S. denies proposal to pause project

The U.S. government delivered some unwanted news to the company behind the Keystone XL pipeline Wednesday, informing TransCanada Corp. that it was rejecting its request for a delay in evaluating the project.

The answer came in a letter to TransCanada two days after the Calgary-based company raised eyebrows with its unexpected demand for a timeout in the controversy-plagued process.

"We're not required to pause it based on an applicant's request. There's no legal basis to do that," said State Department spokesman John Kirby, describing the letter sent to the company.

"We have told TransCanada that the review process is going to continue, and when it's over, then and when we have something to talk about, we'll do so."

The pipeline would carry almost one-quarter of all Canada's oil exports, but it needs a permit to cross the U.S. border to be connected with the southern leg that's already flowing to Gulf of Mexico refineries.

That company request came as a surprise, given that the company and its allies in the Harper government in Ottawa had spent years urging speedy approval.

The about-face was interpreted by the administration as a political move — aimed at increasing its chance of approval under a possible future Republican administration.

The company denies that any political calculations were behind its sudden request for a delay. In a statement Wednesday, the company repeated its arguments: pipelines are cleaner than train transport, previous State Department reports agree with their math and Keystone would create thousands of jobs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Summerside neighbours to sponsor Syrian family

REFUGEE CRISIS

## Group intends to raise \$27K to cover first year expenses



Andrea Ross  
Metro | Edmonton

A dozen neighbours in the south Edmonton community of Summerside are raising money to bring a family of Syrian refugees to Canada.

Their plan took shape in September, when organizer Greg Miskie saw the tragic photos of Aylan Kurdi, a Syrian toddler found drowned on a beach in Turkey.

Miskie asked members of the community Facebook group Edmonton South Cares if anyone would be willing to help refugees in need.

A little over two months later, the group of physiotherapists, athletes, daycare owners, stay-at-home moms and IT professionals is raising money to bring a family of four with two little girls from a refugee camp in Lebanon to Edmonton in

March.

"It's about finding support for a family in need," Miskie said. "The goal is to create a sense of community for people who have had that torn away."

But navigating the bureaucracy wasn't easy, Miskie said. Information from the provincial and federal governments is limited, and many not-for-profit organizations don't have the resources to help people start the sponsorship process.

The group partnered with the Islamic Family and Social Services Association, the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers and the Anglican

Diocese of Edmonton, which all had experience placing families from Syria in Edmonton.

"Working through the Anglican Diocese, we located numerous families and selected one who were in a refugee camp in Lebanon," Miskie said. "But the family will have to go into a consulate in Lebanon and get screened for health and security, then there's a six-week lag time to get their travel authorization documents."

Miskie said the group is trying to raise the \$27,000 for rent, clothing, food and household items the family will need for their first year in Edmonton.

Most refugees who arrive here get a job within two months, Miskie said, but Citizenship and Immigration Canada recommends sponsors raise enough to support a family for a year.

Any unused money will be donated or used to sponsor another family, Miskie said.

The group has received \$5,000 in private donations and is hosting a fundraising dinner and auction on Nov. 21.

"After we are done with this project, I hope the group will exist to really bring together people who are just looking to help people."



Greg Miskie is one of 12 neighbours in Summerside who are sponsoring a family of Syrian refugees. KEVIN TUONG/METRO

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# MLA seeking student input

## EDUCATION

### Motion for involvement on school boards passes



**Braeden Jones**  
Metro | Edmonton

Despite a divisive debate about start times souring the first week of the Alberta legislature, a motion from one NDP MLA to investigate creating student trustees has passed unanimously.

Thomas Dang, the youngest MLA in Premier Rachel Notley's caucus, recently moved to "consult with school boards and youth to encourage senior high school student participation on boards."

Every MLA voted in favour of it. "This is clearly something people want to see," Dang said.

In 2014, Edmonton Public schools were lauded for their appointment of the province's first youth trustee, but did not appoint a second one this year.

According to an Edmonton Public report, trustees agreed the nearly \$64,000 needed for the election and for staff time to liaise with the youth trustee was not "a valuable use of District resources."

Meanwhile, the report showed students felt strongly otherwise.

Dang said his ultimate goal is to see students engage with decision makers, trustees and boards, "in a meaningful way."

The form that engagement takes will depend on what emerges from the consultation his motion has called for, but Dang said it could mirror the student trustee position Edmonton Public piloted last year.

"I've spoken with some trustees (from that board), including chairperson Michael Jans," Dang said. "They are currently reviewing it to my understanding and hoping to carry it forward in some way."

Dang said he's also discussed his vision with Minister of Education David Eggen, and learned it's possible the engagement he hopes for could take different forms in each jurisdiction.



**CURTAIN CALL REBOOTING A CLASSIC** Built as a fire hall in 1952, Old Strathcona's Varscona became a theatre in the '80s. By 2010, however, its keepers knew the roof was shot, the pipes leaked and it was just too small. On Wednesday, work continued on the theatre's \$7.5-million rebirth, which adds 30 more seats and a small second theatre. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

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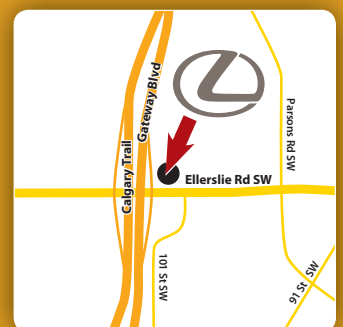
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# As snow falls, road workers call it a day



**Braeden Jones**  
Metro | Edmonton

With snow falling this week, the city announced the end to road work for 2015, lending credence to the belief there are just two seasons in Edmonton: road construction and winter.

Transportation manager Dorian Wandzura said 144 of 176 projects were completed on time and on budget this year — a 90 per cent completion

**\$99M**

Amount invested in 53 arterial road projects in 2015.

rate that's "typical" compared to other years.

Wandzura also said what's been built in 2015 is critical to accommodate Edmonton's growth.

**\$160M**

Amount invested in 107 neighbourhood renewal projects in 2015.

"We've tackled major arterial work, both within the downtown core to get ready for the downtown transformation, as well as high volume locations, such as Stony Plain

Road, Sherwood Park Freeway and Whitemud Drive," he said.

The completed work as well as neighbourhood renewals and 12 multi-year projects that are on time, are all part of a "much needed transformation" in Edmonton, Coun. Tony Caterina said.

Still, 14 projects have significant timeline or budget issues, including work on Wayne Gretzky Drive and the city's two major bridge renewals, the 102 Avenue Bridge and the Walterdale bridge replacement.



The city paid to attract Red Bull Crashed Ice to the city this past winter. METRO FILE

## \$1.7 million set aside for 'events'

### CITY HALL

### Only council knows what money is for in the budget



**Ryan Tumilty**  
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton's city budget proposes to spend \$1.7 million to attract "events," but doesn't say what they might be.

The three-year operating budget includes \$1.2 million for an event next year and \$500,000 for one in 2016, but budget documents list the items as, simply, "anticipated events."

Coun. Michael Oshry said he knows what the mystery events are and hopes council can end the secrecy soon.

"I am happy to make that public unless there is a reason we can't."

A third event in 2017, estimated to cost \$550,000, is listed but not currently funded

in the budget proposal.

City staff said the still-secret events were kept from public view because disclosing information could interfere with bidding or contracts.

Mayor Don Iveson said he's not concerned by the secrecy, because it protects the city's chances of securing the events.

"Council will know what they are, which at this stage of the process is appropriate," he said.

Iveson said in past years, city staff have had to create last-minute budget requests for events, so putting them in ahead of time is good planning.

"It has always been thus when we go after major events. There is a public place and a private phase."

But Oshry said the city has been open to almost all events in the past, but he wondered if it's time to be more selective.

"It's good for our reputation and for the economic drivers of the city, but I can tell you that council is starting to have some conversations about whether we should be saying yes to anything," he said.

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# Art grounded in the land

## CULTURE

### Métis artist finds spiritual link with earth

**Rhonda Kronyk**  
For Metro

Métis artist Heather Shillinglaw is one of three indigenous women whose art makes up a three-year travelling exhibition called *Dreaming with my 'Great Mother' 'Dirinene' 'Nikawinaw Askiy.'*

Shillinglaw is also one of 46 artists awarded grants under the Edmonton Art Council's Program Grants initiative. She's using the grant money to create six mixed-media panels that explore her connection to the land. The panels incorporate beadwork, acrylics and drawings on watercolour paper. "I like to create work that is an ecological examination of my mouse spirit," says Shillinglaw.

"My mouse spirit is the metaphor that was assigned



Heather Shillinglaw brings her ecological perspective to installations. SUPPLIED

to me from an elder in the community. As I grow as an artist, I have a greater understanding of how important that mouse perspective is to the plants and flowers."

The exhibit uses traditional teachings passed down through

generations. Women "utilize the landscape for harvest and for medicine," Shillinglaw said.

"I'm looking back to my ancestors to discover how important this was to maintain our culture and our heritage. It speaks to the importance

of ecological protection of the medicine plants."

Shillinglaw wants viewers to think about how we can protect the environment. By using the perspective of a mouse, she brings viewers deeper into a world most don't notice.

## + HERITAGE

### Making art accessible

The Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) is making art accessible for all Albertans through the Trex program.

Shane Golby, the Art Gallery of Alberta's travelling exhibitions manager, is organizing exhibitions for northeast and north-central Alberta. Any community that can display art in a secure manner can have an exhibition.

"Alberta has an amazing cultural heritage, and the AFA has a collection of about 8,000 pieces of art," says Golby. "These works are owned by the people of Alberta. The TREX program gets that collection out to the people."

Syncrude supports the program, with funding "to develop one First Nations exhibition each year that will travel the province."

## INVESTMENT

### Casino getting facelift



**Ryan Tumilty**  
Metro | Edmonton

West Edmonton Mall's Palace Casino is getting a \$45-million facelift and a new name.

Gateway Casinos announced the investment in the property, which will now be called the Starlight Casino, and said it will offer a more fulsome entertainment experience.

"We're turning a more gaming-centred, gaming-focused property into a full-service entertainment destination," said spokeswoman Tanya Gabara.

Gateway announced a \$32-million replacement for downtown's Baccarat Casino earlier this year and Gabara said the company hopes to refresh its older spaces. She said Gateway sees promise in Edmonton.

The expansion will add five new food options to the facility and the company plans to add 500 new jobs. The renovated casino is set to open in fall 2016.

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## CANADA WIDE CLEARANCE



# 'Looks like Canada'



Justin Trudeau gives a high five to children after attending a swearing-in ceremony of his cabinet.

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## PARLIAMENT

### Government will be based on teamwork, trust: Trudeau

Justin Trudeau beamed as he explained why he felt the need to put together Canada's first cabinet with an equal number of male and female members, 15 each.

"It's an incredible pleasure for me to be before you today ... to present a cabinet that looks like Canada," Trudeau said on Wednesday afternoon in his first statement as Canada's 23rd prime minister.

He had a quick answer and a smile when asked why he felt the need for the gender balance in his 30-member cabinet.

"Because it's 2015," he told reporters gathered outside Rideau Hall. "Canadians elected extraordinary members of Parliament ... I'm glad to be able to highlight a few of them in the cabinet today."

He promised that his government would be one based on trust and teamwork that delivers "evidence-based policy."

"Government by cabinet is back," he said.

Trudeau said he welcomed media asking serious questions and respected the desire for open data and access to information.

"We're forming a government that places trust at the very centre of its actions," he said.

He said he trusts his cabinet will help him fulfill a pledge to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees and also said he will push for human rights in upcoming talks in China.

That's important "not just for Canadians but for everyone on this planet," he said.

A standing ovation followed the pledge by Trudeau to be a "faithful and true servant" of the Queen in Canada in the blue-walled hall, with its high ceilings, gold curtains and massive portrait of Queen Elizabeth II.

Trudeau, 43, made history by becoming the first child of a former Canadian prime minister to assume the post. His late father, Pierre Trudeau, last held the office in 1984.

The new prime minister was almost literally at home as he assumed Canada's top post. He is currently living in a secure Georgian revival-style cottage behind Rideau Hall, where the swearing-in ceremonies are held.

Trudeau grew up at the official prime minister's residence at 24 Sussex Dr. in Ottawa. That building is now slated to undergo renovations to remove lead pipes and outdated wiring, among other things.

He and his incoming cabinet arrived at Rideau Hall this morning after a walk on which they were greeted and cheered by well-wishers.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Trudeau and his wife Sophie Gregoire arrive with his cabinet before his swearing-in at Rideau Hall in Ottawa on Nov. 4. CHRIS WATTIE/AFP/Getty

## 3 LITTLE (YET SIGNIFICANT) DETAILS

### TRUDEAU'S BLUE TIE

It was hard not to see the new prime minister's choice of tie in stark contrast to the other men admitted to the executive branch, almost all of whom wore red ties.



### THE GREAT SEAL OF CANADA

Innovation minister Navdeep Bains is seen clutching the Great Seal, which is affixed to bills when they get royal assent and is entrusted to the registrar general of Canada.





A beautiful fall day, a buoyant ceremony, a general air of optimism — everything goes Justin Trudeau's way as the country's 23rd prime minister and his notably diversified cabinet are sworn in



IMAGES

**BIBLES**  
Many of the new ministers brought their own books of scripture to hold while taking their oaths.



## THE 6 TOUGHEST JOBS IN OTTAWA

### 1 Improve standing on world stage



**Stéphane Dion | Foreign Affairs**

Dion struggles in English and is not a natural schmoozer, making him an unusual choice for a job that prizes both those skills. But he is highly intelligent and has held key portfolios in past Liberal governments.

Level of difficulty  
Fit

### 2 Missing-and-murdered inquiry



**Carolyn Bennett | Indigenous and Northern Affairs**

Bennett, a former family physician and minister of state in Paul Martin's government, is an obvious choice. Her past work as an aboriginal-affairs critic gives her instant credibility on a sensitive file.

Level of difficulty  
Fit

### 3 Settle 25,000 refugees by 2016



**John McCallum | Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship**

The former Royal Bank chief economist has seemingly little experience on the immigration file. But his past cabinet experience (Defence, Veterans Affairs) should help.

Level of difficulty  
Fit

### 4 Deliver federal budget by March



**Bill Morneau | Finance**

The rookie MP brings Bay Street cred as the former head of a human-resources company. He jumps right in to arguably the government's most important portfolio. For a political newcomer, it will be a very tall order.

Level of difficulty  
Fit

### 5 Prepare for Paris climate summit



**Catherine McKenna | Environment and Climate Change**

The former human-rights and social-justice lawyer showed her political mettle by unseating NDP stalwart Paul Dewar. Now can she deliver on all of Trudeau's environmental promises?

Level of difficulty  
Fit

### 6 End bombings in Syria, Iraq



**Harjit Sajjan | Defence**

The rookie MP served in Bosnia and Afghanistan and was the first Sikh to command a Canadian Army regiment. He has instant credibility with the rank-and-file; the top brass is another matter.

Level of difficulty  
Fit



Amarjeet Sohi is sworn in as Minister of Infrastructure and Communities. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Sohi facing big job ahead

### ECONOMY

### MP placed at centre of \$60B infrastructure strategy



**Ryan Tumilty**  
Metro | Edmonton

Amarjeet Sohi will now have the challenge of building bridges, transit projects and roads right across the country as Prime Minister's Justin Trudeau's minister of infrastructure and communities.

Trudeau gave Sohi the portfolio Wednesday. It puts the former Edmonton councillor at the centre of the Liberals' \$60 billion infrastructure plan.

Sohi said he plans to work with provincial and municipal governments across the country to get projects built for Canadians.

"My style of work has been forging strong relationships and building on those relationships to deliver what we need to do for our communities," he said.

He said after he meets with his new staff, he looks forward to starting the work of building relationships.

"We believe in partnerships. This is what this is about; it's about partnering with municipalities, partnering with the provinces."

Mayor Don Iveson said he believes Sohi is a great fit for the job.

"Amarjeet is one of the most far-minded people I have served with. He is going to do the right things for Canada," said Iveson.

Iveson said Sohi's appointment should bode well for the city's aspirations on LRT and on the Yellowhead Freeway, but he believes he will be great for the whole country.

"He will be there to not just represent Edmonton, but really a local government voice at the cabinet table," he said.

Premier Rachel Notley welcomed both Sohi and Calgary Minister Kent Hehr would represent the province well in Ottawa.

"On behalf of everyone in my cabinet, we look forward to working with the new federal cabinet ministers to grow and diversify the economy."

**Amarjeet is one of the most far-minded people I have served with. He is going to do the right things for Canada.**

Mayor Don Iveson



## NEW DEMOCRATS

## Mulcair addresses caucus

Tom Mulcair's campaign theme song Meet Me in the Basement by Broken Social Scene took on an ironic — and literal — significance Wednesday as the election-bruised NDP caucus gathered in the bowels of Parliament Hill.

The NDP leader, who has stayed out of the public eye since his party's drubbing, met with a significantly downsized caucus just hours after Justin Trudeau was sworn in. Mulcair said the election results were not what the NDP hoped for, but vowed the party will examine what happened. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## THE SCENE

## 'Time in history'

Call it the political version of a Canadian fall classic. The diverse crowd gathered on the grounds of Rideau Hall to witness the arrival of the new government.

They watched on large screens dotted around the grounds as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his cabinet took their oaths.

As the names were called, they applauded and cheered like the crowd at a sporting event greeting the starting lineup on the day of a big game.

"It's quite a time in history," said Pippa McDougall, 22.

It was a sentiment expressed by many, including a few older members of the crowd who fondly recalled the current prime minister's father, Pierre Elliott Trudeau. THE CANADIAN PRESS



# Shoo-ins left out

## CABINET

## Political celebs and veterans on back bench

Presented with a wealth of talent to choose from in making his cabinet, there was some political capital Prime Minister Justin Trudeau chose not to spend.

A retired general and a former Toronto police chief were among the star Liberal MPs shut out of Trudeau's maiden cabinet, along with several veteran MPs.

At the same time, relative political rookies now find themselves commanding some of the top political posts, including National Defence, Justice and the government's signature

infrastructure plan.

"We have an awful lot of work to do in the coming weeks, months and years," Trudeau said after the group was sworn in.

"But I know that Canadians expect of us to come together and put forward a team that is going to be able to deliver on the change, on the ambitious plan for this country that the Liberal Party ran on — and that's exactly what we're going to deliver."

Retired lieutenant-general Andrew Leslie was considered a shoo-in for a cabinet spot when he announced he was running for the Liberals but was left out of the mix, as was former Toronto police chief Bill Blair.

Longtime MPs, including Joyce Murray and former cab-



**Canadians expect of us to come together and put forward a team that is going to be able to deliver ... on the ambitious plan for this country that the Liberal Party ran on.** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

inet minister Hedy Fry, were also on the outside looking in.

Fry said she had absolutely no hard feelings.

"He matched people's capabilities to their talents, and I'm looking forward to working with them," she said. "What I bring to the table is a fair amount of experience and that ability to roll up my sleeves and help us to succeed."

Murray and Fry were the lone Liberal MPs in B.C. following

the 2011 election, but after the party's unexpected success in that province last month, three newly elected parliamentarians now have seats on the front bench.

They are retired lieutenant-colonel Harjit Sajjan, appointed as defence minister; Jody Wilson-Raybould, who has been given the justice portfolio, and Carla Qualtrough, now responsible for Sport and Persons with Disabilities. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**1 Team shot** — PM Justin Trudeau holds a news conference with his cabinet after they were sworn in at Rideau Hall. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

**2 Man of the people** — The PM takes a selfie with onlookers as his wife Sophie Gregoire-Trudeau (left) looks on. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

**3 Emotional moment** — Trudeau's mother Margaret reacts to the swearing-in. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

**4 Young ambition** — Two-year-old Ross Potter wears a Mountie uniform as he waits for Trudeau and the MPs who will comprise his cabinet to arrive at Rideau Hall. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Britain suspends flights

EGYPT

## Officials say bomb may have downed Russian plane

British and U.S. officials said Wednesday they have information suggesting the Russian jetliner that crashed in the Egyptian desert may have been brought down by a bomb, and Britain said it was suspending flights to and from the Sinai Peninsula indefinitely.

Intercepted communications played a role in the tentative conclusion that the Islamic State group's Sinai affiliate planted an explosive device on the plane, said a U.S. official briefed on the matter. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss intelligence matters publicly.

The official and others said there had been no formal judgment rendered by the CIA or other intelligence agencies, and that forensic evidence from the blast site, including the airplane's black box, was still being ana-



The young family of Alexei Gromov, 27, his wife Tatyana, 26, and their 10-month-old daughter Darina, who was the youngest passenger in Russia's deadliest plane crash last Saturday, which took the lives of 224 people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

lyzed.

The official added that intelligence analysts don't believe the operation was ordered by Islamic State leaders in Raqqa, Syria. Rather, they believe that if it was a bomb, it was planned and executed by a Sinai affiliate of the Islamic State of Iraq and

the Levant, which operates autonomously.

Other officials cautioned that intercepted communications can sometimes be misleading and that it's possible the evidence will add up to a conclusion that there was no bomb.

British Foreign Secretary Philip

Hammond said there was a "significant possibility" the crash was caused by a bomb, and Britain was suspending flights to and from the Sinai resort of Sharm el-Sheikh indefinitely.

After a meeting of the British government's crisis committee, COBRA, Hammond said Britain

**We have become concerned that the plane may well have been brought down by an explosive device.**

Statement from David Cameron's office

was advising its citizens not to go on vacation to Sharm el-Sheikh, which is visited by hundreds of thousands of Britons a year.

Meanwhile, Russian and Egyptian investigators said Wednesday that the cockpit voice recorder of the Metrojet Airbus 321-200 had suffered substantial damage in the weekend crash that killed 224 people. Information from the flight data recorder has been successfully copied and handed over to investigators, the Russians added.

Prime Minister David Cameron's office said British aviation experts had been sent to Sharm el-Sheikh, where the flight originated, to assess security before British flights there would be allowed to resume. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIGRANT CRISIS

## Volunteers flock to Lesbos

As the Greek island Lesbos struggles with a huge migrant surge, a close-knit group of volunteers is working alongside Greek fishermen to rescue people at sea, provide medical care and bring comfort and basic necessities.

In the past three weeks, about 100,000 migrants reached Europe's busiest coastline — 10 kilometres of shore in northern Lesbos — whose beaches are littered by mounds of discarded orange life vests. The task can sometimes feel overwhelming, as children die before the rescuers' eyes and there is never an end to the people in need. But the volunteers say the hardship is better than watching the plight of refugees on television.

One volunteer, Essan Daod, a Palestinian surgeon, flew to Lesbos from Israel three weeks ago to treat migrants, horrified by the scenes of drowning and anguish.

Since then, the 32-year-old doctor has helped deliver a baby on the beach, treated countless broken bones and revived more unconscious infants than he can remember. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POLITICS

# Romanian government collapses in wake of massive protests

Romania's government collapsed Wednesday after thousands of people took to the streets to protest a deadly fire at a heavy metal concert, the final straw after a five-month corruption investigation that has shaken the nation.

Prime Minister Victor Ponta

said he and his government would resign "to take note of the legitimate grievances which exist in society," adding: "I hope handing in my and my government's mandate will satisfy the demands of protesters."

But thousands of people

turned out for new protests Wednesday evening demanding early elections and more accountability in government.

Even before last weekend's fire, the deadliest in Romania's history, Ponta faced widespread calls to resign as he was tried on

charges including tax evasion, money laundering, conflict of interest and making false statements.

The charges relate to activities in 2007 and 2008, when he was a lawmaker and a lawyer. Ponta denies wrongdoing.

Then came the fire Friday night at the basement Colectiv nightclub, which sent panicked people stampeding for the single exit. The death toll stands at 32, with about 130 more hospitalized, dozens of them in serious or critical con-

dition. The club's three owners have been detained on manslaughter charges for allegedly failing to comply with fire regulations. Many Romanians also suspect authorities of taking bribes to overlook the violations.

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ANIMALS

## Thousands of crocs go hungry in Honduras

A U.S. investigation into alleged money laundering for drug traffickers by one of Honduras' most powerful families has resulted in some unusual victims: thousands of hungry crocodiles.

At least 7,500 crocodiles on a private farm in northern Honduras have been poorly fed in recent weeks because of a lack of resources, authorities and employees at the property said. The bank accounts of the farm's owner, the Rosenthal family, were seized during a probe into accusations they were operating a money laundering network linked to drug trafficking.

Farm employees said on Wednesday that the ani-



Private companies were asked to donate money to buy food for the crocs. FERNANDO ANTONIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

mals went without food for more than a month, but were finally fed over the weekend thanks to donations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN BRIEF

### Canadian fighting with Kurdish forces in Syria killed: Report

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights says a Canadian fighting the Islamic State group in Syria has been killed in a suicide attack.

The observatory says in a posting on its website that John Robert Gallagher was killed in the attack by an ISIL fighter on Wednesday at a farm near Dalhu village in the predominantly Kurdish province of Hassakeh that borders Iraq. Maclean's magazine says Gallagher is a former infantryman with the 2nd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, who went into Syria in July to fight with a U.S.-backed Kurdish militia known as the YPG.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



# 'Eat pork or skip ... lunch'

FRANCE

## Wrestling with religion moves to cafeterias of French schools

This was the week that schoolchildren in one Paris suburb got a stark choice at the cafeteria: pork or nothing at all.

Chilly-Mazarin joined a handful of towns run by right-leaning mayors that have ended a practice of offering a substitute for students forbidden by their religion from eating pork.

The decisions have come amid increased discussions in France about its secularist ideals following the terror attacks in January that were blamed on French Islamic extremists — a discussion critics say has been hijacked by anti-Muslim forces on the far right.

On Wednesday, the Socialist government issued unusually direct criticism against the schools that have ended the pork substitutes as it was training appointees to mediate tense questions about the role of religion in schools.

In back-to-back speeches, the education and interior ministers walked the country's increasingly narrow line on religion in schools.

Education Minister Najat Vallaud-Belkacem said teachers have to impart the secularist ideal but "not a secularism that is a declaration of war against a religion, as we see when a mayor decides that in the name of a so-called secular



Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, left, and Education Minister Najat Vallaud-Belkacem at a debate on secularism in school in Paris on Wednesday. THIBAUT CAMUS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ideal, children will be forced to eat pork or skip school lunch."

Schools take seriously their mission to educate the next generation of secular French citizens, never more so than since the January attacks.

Vallaud-Belkacem alluded to that mission repeatedly in her speech to the mediators, whose job is to offer advice to local governments and schools

**School is a place of knowledge, not of belief.**

Najat Vallaud-Belkacem

about France's division between church and state.

SYRIA

## Moscow missing ISIL: U.S.

Two top U.S. diplomats said Wednesday that 85 to 90 per cent of Russian airstrikes in Syria have killed moderate opposition forces and civilians and that Moscow's intervention has done little to stop Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militants.

The State Department officials testified before the House Foreign Affairs Committee where both Democratic and Republican members maintained that the current U.S. policy in Syria is too limited.

The conflict has killed 225,000 Syrians and caused 4 million to become refugees.

"Russia's military intervention has dangerously exacerbated an already complex environment," said Anne Patterson, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern Affairs, adding the airstrikes predominantly have targeted areas where ISIL militants are not present.

"So far, then, this has not been a Russian fight against terrorism so much as an effort to preserve the Assad regime."

Victoria Nuland, assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian Affairs, said Moscow has failed to exact any humanitarian concessions from Assad as a price for Russian support.

She said Kerry is hoping that if the U.S. and others can "rope" Russia into the diplomatic effort, it will lead Moscow to seek a peaceful solution different than the military intervention they are engaged in today.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"School is a place of knowledge, not of belief. This distinction is essential," said Vallaud-Belkacem, born in Morocco and raised as a Muslim.

But some say that what France defines as a religious problem actually leads to discrimination of a minority population that has little economic power or hope of advancement.

"The terror attacks of Janu-

ary 2015 weigh heavily," said Olivier Noel, a sociologist studying discrimination in France. "When you talk about misusing the secular ideal, on the one hand it's happening on the extreme right, with Islamophobia. Then you have the extreme secularism of the left. Without meaning to, they join the positions of the extreme right." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFGHANISTAN

## Taliban stones young woman

Suspected Taliban fighters stoned a 22-year-old Afghan woman to death after she was accused of adultery, an Afghan official said Wednesday.

The woman, identified only as Rokhshana, was forced to stand in a deep hole in the ground during the Oct. 24 attack in a village in remote Ghor province of western Afghanistan, said Abdul Hai Khateby, the spokesman for the governor.

The village, about 45 kilometres (28 miles) north of Ghor's capital, Firozkoh, is controlled by Taliban insurgents "who implement their own barbaric laws," Khateby said.

In an online video purportedly showing the killing, about a half-dozen men are seen standing around a

### + HISTORY

Incidents of stoning are unusual but not unheard of in Afghanistan, where women are the main victims.

deep, narrow pit and pelting the woman with rocks while a larger group of men sit on the ground nearby, watching. The video could not be independently verified.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani called Rokhshana's killing a "criminal and un-Islamic" act, according to a statement from his office. The statement said Ghani had appointed a "delegation" to investigate the incident.

Rokhshana, who the Tali-

ban said was also guilty of running away from home, was accused of adultery because she was engaged to man she did not want to marry, Khateby added. She had already been divorced, he added.

Under the 1996-2001 Taliban rule, girls were barred from attending school, women were forced to stay indoors, and to cover their heads and faces with burqas when they left their homes, which was permitted only in the company of male relatives. And though women in Afghanistan have won back many of the rights since then, deep prejudices remain — along with fears that their rights could be sacrificed in any government peace deal with the Taliban.

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# U.S. Senate probes price hikes

## PHARMACEUTICALS

### Valeant, three other firms' drug prices skyrocket

The political scrutiny of Valeant Pharmaceuticals is heating up as the U.S. Senate formally launched a probe Wednesday into skyrocketing prices for three of the company's prescription drugs.

The Senate's special committee on aging said it had requested documents and information from Valeant and three other drug companies.

Also requested were documents from Turing Pharmaceuticals, Retrophin Inc., and Rodelis Therapeutics amid a public outcry over the hikes, most notably Turing's move to raise the price of Daraprim by 5,000 per cent after obtaining

rights to the drug. The medicine is the only U.S.-approved treatment for a deadly parasitic infection called toxoplasmosis.

Past political focus on Valeant in the U.S. has been on the heart drugs Isuprel and Nitropress. But in a letter to Valeant CEO Michael Pearson, the Senate committee is also seeking information on Cuprimine, used to treat Wilson's Disease, an inherited disorder that can cause severe liver and nerve damage.

Cuprimine's price soared nearly 3,000 per cent to \$26,189 US for 100 capsules from \$888 US after Valeant purchased the rights to it. Nitropress increased 625 per cent and Isuprel by 820 per cent, the Senate letter said.

Republican Sen. Susan Collins and ranking Democrat Sen. Claire McCaskill asked for Valeant's co-operation by turning over analysis, documents and historical financial data.

They also wanted a list of



Valeant Pharmaceuticals CEO Michael Pearson. THE CANADIAN PRESS

countries where the drugs are sold or are expected to be sold in the next two years and the corresponding prices.

A hearing on the issue is tentatively scheduled for Dec. 9.

"We need to get to the bottom of why we're seeing huge

spikes in drug prices that seemingly have no relationship to research and development costs," said McCaskill.

Some of the increases resemble "little more than price gouging," she added.

Valeant said it would co-operate with the committee's inquiry.

"Valeant manages a large portfolio of medicines and the prices of individual drugs fluctuate due to a number of factors, including the cost of development and acquisition and complexities in the health-care cost reimbursement system," said spokeswoman Laurie Little.

She said the list price of any drug doesn't typically reflect the actual amount paid since the company provides financial assistance to make them more affordable.

Valeant is already under investigation by members of the House of Representatives for its general business strategy, which involves buying smaller drug developers and then jacking up prices on their medicines.

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## TECHNOLOGY

### Wearables go beyond basics

Canadian startups are building new wearable technology that goes well beyond the simple heart-rate monitoring and calorie-counting of activity trackers familiar to fitness buffs.

While devices from companies such as Fitbit, Jawbone and Garmin monitor basic information like steps taken and sleep cycles, many of the sports gadgets on display at the Wearable Entertainment & Sports Toronto conference on Tuesday were designed for the pros — offering advanced telemetry that helps professional athletes avoid injury and optimize training routines.

Montreal-based Hykso, for example, is developing sensors that sit in a boxer's hand

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	<b>GOLD</b>
\$1,106.20 US (-\$7.90)	

**NATURAL GAS:** \$2.262 US (+0.9¢)  
**DOW JONES:** 17,867.58 (-50.57)

wraps to feed back real-time data about speed, power and technique. Hykso data scientist Patrick Chandler says the company has already partnered

with three Montreal-area gyms to provide their technology to those looking to perfect the sweet science.

PGA golfer Andrew Parr talked about how he uses the Muse brain-sensing headband from Toronto-based InteraXon to work on his focus and help him while out on the links.

Hani Abidi, one of the co-founders of Ollinfit, said his company's wearable sensor system and accompanying digital personal training app are just the beginning. Their accelerometer-based sensors could be used for recording the perfect golf swing and teaching users how to replicate the motions, he said.

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## EMMA TEITEL: ON PARLIAMENT'S CAST OF CHARACTERS

**An institution without diversity is, if not inferior, infinitely dull. Which is why Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's historic decision to appoint a gender-balanced cabinet is brilliant.**



When I graduated from university with a degree in English literature and began writing a column about current affairs, my biggest challenge was overcoming a profound lack of interest in Canadian politics. I watched CPAC — the televised proceedings of the House of Commons — in hopes of igniting a civic passion and instead discovered a soporific more powerful than 10 turkey dinners.

"Try to think about politics like daytime TV," a politically inclined friend advised me. "Picture every member of Parliament as a character on a soap opera, each one with their own back story and drama."

This method gave me some hope but was ultimately unsuccessful. For one thing, the prurging of Parliament bore zero resemblance to *The Bold and the Beautiful*, or my all-time favourite soap, *Passions*. But more importantly, Canadian government, even at its most engaging, lacked something soap operas have in excess: a diverse cast of characters. On a soap opera there is, to name a few, the formidable patriarch, the weird aunt, the young stud, the vengeful love child and the ghost of her aborted twin. In Canadian government though, there seemed to be an overwhelming supply of one character and one character only: the formidable patriarch — in other words, the greying

white man.

There is no crime or shame in being a greying white man, or a white man of any age or persuasion. In fact, I would be delighted if the new Liberal government added to its official platform a nationwide moratorium on the intensely stupid and increasingly popular word "mansplain." But an institution without diversity is, if not inferior, infinitely dull. Which is why Prime Min-

the environment and climate change. The televised ceremony began with two little Inuit girls throat singing and then immediately cracking up, a thoroughly adorable moment which in turn made the Governor General, David Johnston and Trudeau crack up, too. When a reporter asked Trudeau after the ceremony why gender parity in his cabinet is important he said, simply, "Because it's 2015."



**COLOURFUL CREW** Though it's not quite as thrilling as the cast of *Passions*, the House of Commons is getting the diverse leadership team it needs and deserves, writes Emma Teitel. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ister Justin Trudeau's historic decision to appoint a gender-balanced cabinet is brilliant and, judging by the rapturous social media reaction to his swearing-in ceremony this week, also widely popular.

Among Trudeau's new gender-balanced 31-member cabinet, sworn in officially at Rideau Hall where thousands applauded outside, are Jody Wilson-Raybould, the first aboriginal woman to hold the post of justice minister, Chrystia Freeland, the first woman to be appointed trade minister since the 1980s, and NGO director Catherine McKenna, who will serve as minister of

In other words, representation and the civic engagement it generates is not mere window dressing to more "serious" business. It is serious business in and of itself, and the notion that calculated fairness will sully a meritocracy that probably never existed to begin with is foolish and unconvincing. Trudeau's call for gender parity in cabinet has gifted Canadian government the diverse cast of characters it desperately needs and deserves. Mind you, it is a cast nowhere as interesting as any seen on *The Bold and the Beautiful* or *Passions*, but that's probably a good thing.

In the end, it's hard to be a Grinch in Canada. Trudeau's swearing-in was rife with good feeling, a contagious vibe no matter your political leanings. And yet, though the Liberal government has every reason to celebrate its achievement in gender parity and youth civic engagement, it must be, in some ways, quite terrified. Expectations of this government are astronomically high — especially among millennials, who don't cleave to political parties the way their parents did and will likely have no problem shedding any loyalty to Trudeau the moment his "hope and change" Obama moment subsides and real governance begins.

Shortly before Trudeau's ceremony a spokesperson for the Liberal party reiterated on national television Trudeau's "openness" and ability to engage people from all walks of life. Harper's cold and insular government, full of crabby media-wary political operatives, we are told again and again, didn't pan out. Everybody chose "Sunny Ways." Sunny Ways, Sunny Ways, Sunny Ways: It is the Marsha Brady of political slogans. And perhaps it's time the Trudeau government considered retiring the phrase — even in light of its many wins. Because though things are looking up for Trudeau — and indeed, they really are — cloudier days full of uncomfortable compromise lie ahead.

**Emma Teitel** is a national columnist for the Toronto Star. She has been a front-of-the-book columnist for Maclean's magazine for the past four years, focusing on a wide range of subjects including women's issues and popular culture. She won the National Magazine Awards gold award for columns in 2013.

## ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

### Stick figures and tea: The new stealth tactics to teach sexual consent

Note to self: When broaching a sensitive subject, use stick figures, and, if possible, tea.

Even the most defensive will surely be somewhat charmed by the thought of cosy, friendly orange pekoe. And stick figures are inherently funny, like pugs in tutus or cats attacking babies (just Google it).

Thus, we have the viral consent video, which is not a phrase I ever expected would make sense, but now does. It's medicine masquerading as comedy, information in the guise of absurdity. Change, one hopes, via a laugh.

The video, written by Rockstar Dinosaur Pirate Princess and created by Blue Seat Studios, illustrates a lesson in consent by comparing offering to have sex with someone to offering them tea. The basic message: If the sex you're about to have is comparable to forcing someone to drink tea, then stop.

"Don't make them drink tea, don't get annoyed at them for not wanting tea. They just don't want tea, OK?" the voice-over explains, while a stick figure gets angry and then pours tea into another stick figure's mouth.

"And if they're unconscious don't make them tea. Unconscious people don't want tea, and they can't answer the question, 'Do you want tea?' because they're unconscious."

Right? So funny.

But hopefully also useful. Hopefully, those who may have not understood consent (like some people I've known) will be caught up in the hilarious and disturbing image of one stick figure forcing another stick figure to drink tea, and think, Hey! That makes a bit more sense, now.

I also felt like the issue reached new clarity thanks to the comparison.

That's certainly the goal of Blue Seat Studios owner and creative director Rachel Brian. Brian told me some have criticized the video by arguing it won't stop rapists from raping people, but she finds that reductive, and I agree.

"There are many cases of sexual assault where the person doesn't intend to be a rapist," she said. "I think the idea that it's, you know, this evil-versus-good thing, and if you're just a good person there will never be a problem, is a little bit naive."

Brian added: "It is not a preachy video and it doesn't assume that people are terrible."

That's the key, friends. The video lets us all consider how to be more considerate about sex without making some people defensive right off the bat. And, Brian added, the video has even helped some assault survivors finally believe it wasn't their fault.

So, stick figures and tea: The new stealth tactics.

**Representation, and the civic engagement it generates, is not mere window dressing to more 'serious' business.**

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# John Irving's frame of mind

## AVENUE OF MYSTERIES

### Long road to new novel spurred by a father's fear

**Henrietta Walmark**  
Metro | Canada



I stumble over John Irving's foot as I tuck myself into the snug booth. He stretches his arms up and out mimicking a giant arachnid as he blames the spider-like table legs for my misstep. It's an endearing icebreaker.

We're meeting over breakfast in a crowded Toronto bar to talk about his latest novel, *Avenue of Mysteries* (Alfred A. Knopf Canada, \$35).

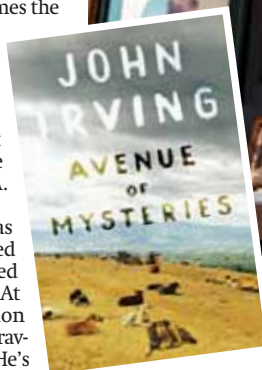
I momentarily feel as awkward and disoriented as the book's lame-footed protagonist Juan Diego. At 54, Juan is on a collision course of his own while traveling to the Philippines. He's off his beta-blockers and slipping in and out of dreams and memories of his 14-year-old self.

The story of Juan Diego and his sister, Lupe, is the 14th novel from the fevered imagination of Irving, author of bestsellers *The World According to Garp*, *The Cider House Rules*, *A Prayer for Owen Meany* and *A Widow for One Year*.

*Avenue of Mysteries*, by turns absurd, tender, profound and



John Irving in his Toronto office — the largest workspace he's ever had. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO



combination thereof — plumbs the author's favourite themes of religion, sex and fear.

It was Irving's good friend, photographer Mary Ellen Mark, who planted a seed of fear that over more than two decades grew into *Avenue of Mysteries*. In the late 1980s, Mark showed him her images of child performers in circuses in India. In 1990, Irving joined Mark and her film director husband, Martin

Bell, in India where they lived with the Royal Circus while Irving drafted a screenplay called *Escaping Maharashtra*. When they couldn't get the movie made, a search for other circuses with young at-risk performers led them to Mexico.

"We saw some amazing circuses," says Irving. "You know the little curb around a ring? There were no bars. The lions just came into the ring and looked at all the children eating cotton candy and peanuts in the front row. You could

have reached out and touched them," he says, reaching across the tiny table to touch my hand, laughing.

"The origins (of *Avenue of Mysteries*) are kids at risk and the unthinkable happening to a child," says Irving. "I wouldn't go see one of those circuses again if you paid me, but with every novel I've written there has to be an element that I am dreading even writing about. Because of how visceral my reaction is to something (unimaginable) ever happening to a child

or grand-child of mine, the fear is autobiographical."

When we walk to Irving's nearby workspace, Metro's photographer and a book publicist join us in the large bright suite. A scrupulously tidy desktop stretches the length of a wall covered in family photos. His Oscar for *The Cider House Rules* screenplay sits opposite on the fireplace mantle. A treadmill separates the main room from a nook with two walls of

## IN THE WORKS

### For the love of Garp

Irving is writing a teleplay of *The World According to Garp* for an HBO Warner Bros. mini-series. Having passed on two previous overtures to adapt his 1978 bestseller, Irving, now 73, says he didn't want to say no again.

wrestling pictures of his sons.

After showing us Mark's image of Pinky, the young Indian circus performer who inspired the character of Lupe, Irving poses for photos and the conversation turns to researching orphanages like the one Juan and Lupe live in for a time.

Irving recalls how his youngest son, Everett, wanted to revisit an orphanage while helping with research for the book. "The first time, (the children) don't look at you," says Irving. "The second time, they think you're coming for them." The author borrows publicist Evan as a prop. Approaching from behind, Irving shyly slips his hand into Evan's hand, saying, "This is what happens when you make a return visit to an orphanage."

In the open yet intimate workspace, defined by its images of the author as patriarch, father and family man, it's easy to imagine Irving taking that symbolic child's proffered hand and embracing his fears yet again.

**ON HIS READING TABLE**  
Edmund White's *Our Young Man* (April 2016) "is the best novel I've read in a long time," says Irving.

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## BOOK EXCERPT THE BASSOON KING BY RAINN WILSON

# 'A tall, pimply, gangly teen'



Comedic talent Rainn Wilson chronicles how he developed his unique sense of humour in his memoir, *The Bassoon King: My Life in Art, Faith, and Idiocy* (on sale Nov. 10).

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Having studied piano as a kid and then clarinet at Kellogg Junior High, just north of Seattle, I went to my band teacher and told him I wanted to quit clarinet and play tenor sax. Saxophone was just way cooler. Guys in the sax section would crack jokes, goof off and wear sunglasses in class sometimes. Clarinet wasn't pathetically loser-ish (I mean it wasn't French Horn!), but it's not the most masculine of instruments either. Sure there was a clarinet-like instrument in the Cantina scene in *Star Wars*, but let's face it, clarinets are for girls in braces and Woody Allen. (Who loves girls in braces. Badum, dum!)

My band teacher, John Law (real name), really pulled a fast one on me. He said something to the effect of "well, you COULD play the sax, but we've just got SO many saxophones right now. You know what's an amazing instrument? One that's really cool and unique?" I was all like

"What? What's really cool and unique?" He was like "The Bassoon." And I was like: "Wow. THE BASSOON. What's that?"

And with that manipulative interaction, a bassoonist was born.

The bassoon is ridiculous. They should be banned for being horrible, unnecessary and adenoidally grating.

It takes like an hour to assemble one. They're enormous. It's like they're made out of Lincoln logs, aluminum twigs and paper towel tubes. There are these tiny double wooden reeds that you have to soak and trim and tend to all the time. There's a strap that you actually have to sit on when you play so the whole thing doesn't fall onto the floor like a bundle of garbage. And, after all that falderall, they end up sounding like an anemic donkey with laryngitis.

Later, after I was digging into my bassooning, Mr. Law was thoughtful enough to let

the class know that originally the bassoon was called the 'fagotti' in Italian because it was like a faggot (bundle) of wood when you were carrying the pieces around. That went over really well. People in junior high just loved commenting in all sorts of interesting ways on me and my enormous 'fagotti.'

I would also occasionally play in the pep band and marching band as a ... wait for it ... xylophonist. Our High School team was the Highlanders and thusly the marching band wore kilts and knee-high socks. If you went to a Shorecrest game or pep rally in 1982 or '83 and saw a tall, pimply, gangly teen in a plaid tartan kilt with a xylophone strapped to his skinny chest, that was probably me. Also, it should be noted that the "cool" guys in marching band would go "commando" under their kilts as they played "Tequila" and "On Wisconsin" and floppily marched around like pubescent idiots.

As if the bassoon, xylophone and science fiction obsession wasn't enough, I then took up an interest in chess. It's as if the sirens of dweebdom lured me inexorably into their pimply lair, from which I never really returned.

So I joined the chess club at Shorecrest High School. The team was centered around two guys whose name sounded like shoe: Terry Hsu (Chinese dude) and Jeff Schuh (white dude). They were really good at chess and taught the rest of us dorks a ton. Terry was first board and Jeff second. Other team members were Blake Kremer (3rd board), David Potter (5th board) and me manning the 4th board. You see, a chess team is comprised of the five best chess players and you put them in order from 1st board to 5th. When you play another team, they bring their five best and you both have at it in a silent room with a handful of awkward, acne-draped spectators. We

did pretty well with the "shoe" brothers and went to the state championship one of the two years I was on the team. We even beat the fancy-pants private school, Lakeside (alma mater of Bill "Fancy Pants" Gates). We crowed about that victory quite a bit, I can tell you.

Once the cheerleaders mockingly made a bunch of chess team banners for the school entranceway that said things like "CONGRATS CHESS TEAM STATE CHAMPS 82!" and stuff like that. Everyone at the school snidely guffawed and thought that was a total hoot and we slunk past the banners in shame. Jeff Schuh, however, had purchased a "chess" letterman's jacket with a giant knight's profile on the back and wore it around proudly. He was a nerd rebel and didn't care what the majority of Highlanders thought of him. Like "Spock" and "Potsie Weber" from *Happy Days* he immediately became a nerd hero.

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**WHAT I'M WATCHING TRANSPARENT:**  
**SEASON ONE, EPISODE FIVE (SHOMI)****How writing a salad into a scene creates a more complex character****Johanna Schneller**  
For Metro Canada**The Wedge**

The three Pfeifferman siblings (Amy Landecker, Jay Duplass and Gaby Hoffman), who are trying to cope as their father (Jeffrey Tambor) transitions to a woman in present-day, hipster Los Angeles, have just eaten lunch in a favourite restaurant from their childhood, one of those throwback places whose menu and decor are frozen in time.

Then they go visit their mother (Judith Light). The eldest (Landecker) holds out a doggie bag. "I brought you a wedge," she says, wagging it.

Now that made me sit up, because a wedge salad is this crazy-specific L.A. thing, a chunk of iceberg lettuce, drenched in blue cheese dressing. Why such retro food is a menu staple in a city that's all about skinniness and trendi-

ness, I do not know, but it is. So instantly, we're grounded in a particular place. Even better, as Landecker hands over the bag, she can't resist crowing, "I'm the only one who remembered!"

In that one-second gesture, we learn reams about her character. She's a full-grown woman in a complex situation (she's cheating on her husband with a woman), yet she still has the ingrained, unshakable habit of needing to be the "good" child, the favourite child. She wants to be seen as unselfish, yet can't resist rubbing it in.

It makes me feel like this family's backstory is infinite, and that show creator Jill Soloway (who just won an Emmy, as did Tambor) can take us anywhere. Because of a salad. Now that's great writing.

**Johanna Schneller** is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday



**Transparent's wedge salad scene reveals reams about Amy Landecker's character (pictured right).** CONTRIBUTED



**Lucy Lawless plays Ruby in Ash vs. Evil Dead.** CONTRIBUTED

**Lucy Lawless finds some love for The Evil Dead****INTERVIEW****Actress talks about her hate for first film, her new role****Matt Prigge**  
Metro | New York

Lucy Lawless wasn't so happy with the 1981 horror *The Evil Dead*. But never say never: a decade-and-change later she was married to its producer, Robert Tapert, and working with star Bruce Campbell and filmmaker Sam Raimi on the shows *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys*

followed by her starring role on *Xena: Warrior Princess*.

Now the gang is back together with *Ash vs. Evil Dead*, the new show that picks up with Campbell's *Ash*, the salty, one-handed, demon-battling hero of Raimi's *Evil Dead* series. Lawless plays Ruby, and though she's only around a bit in the first few episodes, she soon joins forces to fight the latest apocalypse.

**You only have what's basically a cameo in the first episode.**

There was more to that scene, but Sam found it too mean-spirited, so he cut it out. It involved my character smoking like a train, and some little kid comes up to her and tells her

her mommy thinks smoking is dirty. And the kid gets a cup of coffee in the face. It was funny, but a bit mean.

**When you're acting with Bruce, you probably don't want to try and be too funny.**

It's better you get to be Dean Martin to Jerry Lewis. I would describe my character as an irritant. *Ash* is on a mission to save the world and she's going to make it hard for him. She's introduced slowly in the beginning, partly because I was working on something else in the middle of the show. *Ash* builds this ad-hoc family of misfits, and then you bring someone in who's going to f— it all up.

**She's kind of the practical one, whereas he's still very immature.**

He's a man-child, isn't he? I think it was the right time to make the show. *Ash* at 45 is nowhere near as funny as him at 50-something. It's hilarious that he has dentures. *Ash* has dentures! It's funny that this *Lothario* is gumming girls at night.

**I heard the first time you saw the original *The Evil Dead* you were nonplussed.**

I got up and walked out. I couldn't watch the rest of it. I thought these people should be in the ground. Then I was married to one of them 12 years later.

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# An authentic history of comedy

## INTERVIEW

### Ex-stand-up writes book on modern humour

Sue Carter

For Metro Canada



When Kliph Nesteroff murdered his alter ego, a crusty old comedian named Shecky Grey, using a prop breakaway bottle borrowed from Zach Galifianakis, it also killed his stand-up career.

But Nesteroff's eight years working for laughs was not time wasted. It gave him first-hand insight into a tough business and turned Nesteroff into one of the most entertaining and observant writers on the history of modern comedy.

Even before its release this week, Nesteroff's first book, *The Comedians: Drunks, Thieves, Scoundrels, and the History of American Comedy*, had already received props from funny guys like Bob Odenkirk, Andy Richter

and Norm Macdonald. Steve Martin was so impressed he wanted to send copies as gifts to Martin Short, David Letterman and his former musical sidekick, Paul Shaffer. He even asked Nesteroff for help uncovering a foggy memory from his own past.

Nesteroff believes comedians are responding favourably to the book not just because of his extensive research and interviews, but because he intimately understands their lives.

"I think the book has an undercurrent of insight that if were written by someone who had never done standup, or isn't funny or has no experience in comedy, it would miss that element," he says.

"You might not be able to put your finger on what's missing, but I really believe I have an inherent understanding and grasp of the struggle of



**Los Angeles-based writer Kliph Nesteroff says that there are generational gaps in what people find funny, but hard work will always pay off, comically speaking.** JIM HERRINGTON

the lifestyle."

The Los Angeles-based writer got his comedic start in 1998 at open-mic nights at Toronto's Gladstone Hotel, performing to an indifferent audience of hard-luck, fist-fighting addicts, well before it became one of the city's most respected cul-

tural venues.

After a few years performing in Vancouver as Shecky Grey, Nesteroff moved to L.A., where he made his name writing about the history of the entertainment industry for the New Jersey radio station WFMU and hosting live events with

comedic legends such as Mel Brooks and Fred Willard.

The *Comedians* covers broad territory, from the rise of vaudeville theatre in the early 20th century through to the game-changing introduction of television and current podcast idols like Marc

Maron. Although the industry has changed dramatically — no more mobster-ordered shootings or Communist blacklists — performers still experience many of the same pressures of past generations, such as the late-night temptations of drugs and alcohol and the inevitability of being perceived by younger audiences as "square."

"No matter how cool the current flavour of the month is, 40 years from now, people are going to look at Chris Rock and Zach Galifianakis as out of touch. That's the undeniable tragedy of comedy," says Nesteroff.

Jokes go out of style, and kids aren't going to find Jack Benny or even Jerry Seinfeld as hilarious as their elders do, but Nesteroff says there has remained one constant over a century of comedy. "If you're naturally funny and you do standup regularly and long enough, eventually you'll become great," he says. "That's the same in the 1920s as it is today."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

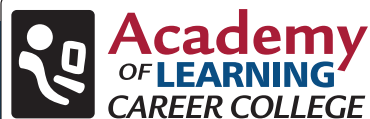
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## 5

**IDEAS FOR CANADIAN MUSICIAN-BRANDED MERCH**

The Weeknd plays a show in Toronto at the Air Canada Centre tonight with a curious new item available for sale in the merch booths: a personally branded vaporizer designed by Abel Tesfaye in partnership with California's PAX Labs. Maybe a few more of Canada's crop of international stars should line up to cash in, too. **BEN RAYNER/FOR METRO**

**2 Broken Social Scene action figure set**

A replica tour bus stuffed with posable action figures from all corners of the BSS diaspora. Pair them up or herd them into bands in endless permutations, and relive all the hissy fits and heartache of a real Broken Social Scene tour. Tom Cochrane and Andy Kim figures sold separately.

**3 F\*\*\* Up presents: Damian's Soothing Throat Spray**

After a hard day of shrieking himself raw onstage, F—ed Up frontman Damian Abraham cools off his vocal chords with this refreshing cannabis-mint spritz. Not recommended for children.

**1 The Weeknd**

We're not saying Tesfaye designed the technology or anything, but PAX's chief marketing officer, Richard Mumby, says the company has completely made over its slick smoking tool consistent with the Toronto R&B star's "style and interests" — one of which, if you're familiar with the Weeknd's lyric sheets, is definitely smoking weed. Perhaps this is the start of a whole new line of image-appropriate Weeknd products.

**4 Drake's vanity mirror**

Ego need stroking? Sit in front of this flatteringly illuminated looking glass and let it placate your insecurities with a digital library of over 1,000 sycophantic phrases. "Who's the best-looking rapper in the world? You are." "You will have more money than Jay and Kanye combined by the end of this decade." The "Make It Rain" model features an attachment that will spray the room with cash from your vast coffers while you gaze into your own eyes.

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GOSSIP BRIEFS

**Halle scary, exes say**

You know what's worse than going through a messy public breakup with your short-tempered French husband? Having your other ex-husbands take to Twitter to chime in about it. Isn't social media the worst? David Justice went on a Twitter rant about his ex. "Yup, me, Eric



(Benet), Gabriel (Aubry) and Olivier (Martinez) were all her 'knight in shining armor,' until it ends. Then we all become the worst guys in history. Only the guys in the relationship with Halle know the real deal. There will be another, of course. He'll be

called 'the best' until it ends," he posted, before insinuating that Berry had a surprise coming for Martinez in their custody battle. "Just wait, Olivier. It's coming. She insinuated that her daughter wasn't safe around Gabriel. Look it up and see the reason. Just wrong." That's all bad enough, but then Benet piled on with, "My man (David Justice) is tweeting some truth." Real classy, guys. NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD

**Serena Williams catches crook**

In the pantheon of dumb criminals, this guy who thought he could outrun Serena Williams has got to be one of the dumbest. The tennis champ took to Facebook to regale fans and friends with a tale of a dinner out for Chinese food ("delicious, I may add") turning into an audition for Wonder Woman. "When least expected, low and behold this

common petty thief grabbed my phone and swiftly left," she writes in the post, which was accompanied by a photo of her photoshopped into a Supergirl costume. "I jumped up, weaved my way in and out of the cozy restaurant (leaping over a chair or two) and chased



him down. He began to run but I was too fast. (Those sprints came in handy) I was upon him in a flash!" She confronted her adversary, who played dumb and claimed he'd grabbed the wrong phone. Sure, buddy. That explains the running. NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD

# Weak wide release for Steve Jobs

BOX OFFICE

**Director Danny Boyle on complex films and sales**

Danny Boyle admits Steve Jobs is a hard sell. The film about the Apple co-founder got disappointing figures when it opened wide across the U.S., taking only \$7.1 million despite critical acclaim and two successful preview weekends on limited release.

Boyle was surprised by the film's box office

numbers but says he's not interested in taking the easy route when making movies.

"You try and make complex films, not simplistic films. You also want to make them highly pleasurable as well," the 59-year-old British director said in an interview Monday.

"We did brilliantly the first two weekends," he explained. "Then they went too wide too soon and that's a mistake. But hindsight experts are always around on Monday mornings."

The movie, starring Michael Fassbender as Jobs and Kate Winslet as his right-hand woman Joanna Hoffman, comes from a script by Aaron Sorkin. Considered



Kate Winslet with director Danny Boyle. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

an award-season heavyweight, the Oscar-winning Boyle (Slumdog Millionaire, 2008) is confident the film will find its audience and says he won't be shocked if Fassbender and Winslet feature high on the upcoming trophy circuit season. "I've been very lucky to be

involved with a lot of very good performances over the years, and this is on a different planet, I think. I mean Fassbender and Winslet — and Seth Rogen is just extraordinary in his playing (Apple engineer Steve) Wozniak — so yes, I'm very, very proud," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LIFESTYLES

# Lil Wayne: Young money millionaire owes two 'milli'

**Ned Ehrbar**  
Metro | Hollywood



Lil Wayne's problems are definitely Rich People Problems. The rapper's Miami Beach mansion was stormed by cops Wednesday to seize property in connection with a dispute he has with private jet leasing company the Signature Group, according to TMZ.

Law enforcement officials arrived to seize some "sizeable" assets from within the home because of Lil Wayne's failure to pay a \$2 million judgment against him in his dispute with the company that came down in September. He's also on the hook for \$200,000 in legal fees for the company.

The company initially sued Lil Wayne for failing to pay for two



Lil Wayne. GETTY IMAGES

years of his three-year contract with them. Lil Wayne himself wasn't there to see the fracas, though. The rapper is currently in Los Angeles. According to paparazzi, he visited the Ace of Diamonds strip club Monday night. He might need a return visit to cheer him up after today.

bug beauty

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# Wood reaches new heights

CONDO TRENDS

**Edmonton among cities turning to wood in construction**

**Duncan McAllister**  
For Metro Canada



From the outside, they look just like any other six-storey midrise structures. It's what you don't see underneath that could be a potential game-changer for Canada's condominium construction industry.

Recent changes to provincial building codes have paved the way for wood frame construction of midrise buildings up to six storeys in Ontario and B.C.,

where the current limit in most other jurisdictions is four storeys. Changes to the National Building Code of Canada are expected to follow suit.

As the condo industry embraces the growth of wood frame construction, we'll start to see more townhomes and midrise condos made from engineered wood materials. What does that mean for the prospective home buyer?

**Benefits**

The obvious advantage is cost. Analysts predict a reduction in construction costs of multi-residential and office buildings in the order of 10 to 15 per cent. That's after factoring in the added safety provisions mandated by the legislation.

Multi-storey wood frame construction is not a new idea. Take a look at the oldest parts of Can-

ada's downtown cities and you'll find many fine examples of legacy construction: mammoth office buildings and warehouses framed with giant timbers and clad in brick.

These buildings have stood the test of time, and many have been transformed into the coveted and trendy loft and office spaces that fetch considerable sums today. For example, Winnipeg's Exchange District is known for its century-old timber buildings that rise up to eight storeys.

But the wood construction of today uses an entirely different class of high-tech materials, such as glulam, a cross-laminated timber product that makes it easier to prefabricate building components. Solid panels up to 20 metres long can be produced in factories with cutouts ready for window and door openings.

These components are then shipped on site to form the walls and floors of the building.

**Modern take**

A new design trend is also underway that takes wood frame construction a step further. CABIN, a new, six-storey hybrid wood and concrete condo in Toronto, incorporates wood elements and accents on the exterior and interiors of the building in a modern interpretation of the Muskoka Lakes style.

According to CABIN developer Adam Ochshorn, "There's a movement up north and throughout Canada, on the west coast and on Georgian Bay, of not doing the typical type of A-frame construction from the '70s and building something more contemporary. That's what we're trying to bring to the city."

## AROUND CANADA

### Sail Condos, Vancouver

A new six-storey contemporary West Coast condominium by Adera Development. These urban apartment homes feature Wesbrook Village amenities close by and greenways connecting the community. B.C. allowed six-storey wood frame construction back in 2009.



### 360 Lofts, Ottawa

This 38-unit condo by Windmill Development is situated in the popular ByWard Market district. With its six-storey facade, it pushes the boundaries of wood construction in a way that resulted in an award in 2012 from the Canadian Wood Council.



### TEN Mount Royal, Calgary

A new four-storey condo collection by Maple Projects, offering a Lower Mount Royal address. The City of Calgary approved the construction of six-storey, wood frame buildings in 2014.



### Verve Tache North, Winnipeg

It's hard to tell that this is a wood frame building. The contemporary four-storey, 62-unit condo is located in the French quarter surrounded by historic sites. It boasts a rooftop terrace that offers views of the Red River, the Forks and downtown.



**Solara at Skyview, Edmonton**

Close to the heart of the city, this four-storey, wood frame midrise by Abbey Lane Homes is located on 127 Street in northwest Edmonton. The condominium offers buyers great value and provides generous floor plans, granite countertops and laminate flooring.

PHOTOS: EDMONTON: ABBEY LANE HOMES; VANCOUVER: ADERA DEVELOPMENT; OTTAWA: FARROW DREESSEN ARCHITECTS; CALGARY: MAPLE PROJECTS; WINNIPEG: STREETSIDE DEVELOPMENT.

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# Get floored by paint possibilities

## DIY PROJECT

### No expertise required to reinvent worn, faded hardwood

Worn and faded hardwood floors can drag down the look of a room. But having scuffed floors sanded down and re-stained can be expensive and messy.

One alternative that's gaining popularity: painting. You can add solid colour, stripes, or any imaginable stencilled or hand-drawn patterns to a floor.

Houzz editor Sheila Schmitz says some of the site's members who have embraced painted floors have done so with real creativity.

"We've seen homeowners reinvent their floors with glossy white paint, oversize stripes, checkerboards with alternating natural and painted finishes, and even more fanciful shapes," Schmitz says.

Here's how to do it.

#### Prep smart

Fans of painted floors point out that the process is less labour-intensive than staining because you don't have to sand away every old scratch or stain. But that doesn't mean you can skip the step of prepping your floors.

Tom Silva, general contractor on the long-running PBS television series *This Old House*, says you need to clean the floor well, then scuff it with sandpaper just enough to create a slightly rough surface. That prep work is the key to making sure the first layer of paint or primer will adhere. Primer isn't required if the floor already has some finish on it. But putting down a few thin, clear coats of primer can make it easier if you decide years from now to remove the paint.

If you do prime the floor, use sandpaper to lightly scuff that clear coat after it dries to help subsequent painted coats adhere well.

#### Bold floor, neutral walls

Interior designer Camila Pavone was ahead of the trend in painting her kitchen floor in 2010. The room previously had green walls and a stained wood floor. Pavone switched the walls to a creamy white and covered the wood floor with jade green paint. She chose a formula called Break-Through!, which dries quickly and creates a harder surface than many other types of paint.

The floors "always get a 'Wow' when new people come to my house," she says.



Because the kitchen is a high-traffic area, Pavone has repainted the floors once every two years to keep them looking shiny and scratch-free.

"It's a really fast project and normally only takes around two hours," she says. "I would totally do it again!"

#### Pick any pattern

Paint can also be perfect for entryways. Thick stripes, diamond or chevron patterns can make a small foyer seem bigger, drawing attention to an otherwise ignored space. Once the floor is cleaned and prepared, simply lay out your design with painters' tape.

Be careful to measure the width of stripes or the angles of diamonds or chevrons to make sure you've laid the tape in the proper places.

Consider using large stencils to add a pattern to the floor of a larger space, like an enclosed porch.

Another option: Coat the floor with a semi-transparent stain or paint that allows the grain of the wood to show through.

Once it's dry, use painters' tape to create a border around the room that you'll fill with a contrasting or complementary colour or pattern.

#### Take time for topcoats

Once you've finished your painted masterpiece, add one or several clear coats on top for protection. Patience between layers is the key: You may be

#### 1 That cosy feeling

Rich red paint on the hardwood floor brings warmth and colour to this stylish, gender-neutral nursery.

#### 2 Check it

A white and gray checkerboard pattern painted on this hardwood floor brings the elegance of a tile floor to this otherwise casual, unpretentious hallway.

#### 3 Serenity now

This hardwood kitchen floor designed by Camila Pavone of Effortless Style Interiors is painted a soft shade of jade green with a glossy finish.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: KARINA KALI-WODA/HOUZZ.COM; HOLLY MARDER/HOUZZ.COM; CAMILA PAVONE/EFFORTLESS STYLE INTERIORS (ALL PHOTOS VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

tempted to paint again as soon as one thin coat feels dry to the touch, but you'll get a much stronger and more attractive result if you leave extra time. Silva points out that oil-based topcoats "may add a little bit of a goldish colour to it, because of the oil. Water-based will give you the true colour of the paint."

And, obvious as it may sound, remember: "Know where to start and where to end," says Schmitz, "so you don't literally paint yourself into a corner."

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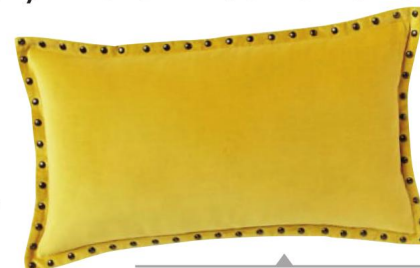
**Karl  
Lohnes**  
For Metro Canada



Who couldn't use a stud or two around the house? Whether it be diamond tufting or studding, the look is everywhere in fashion and home decor this winter.

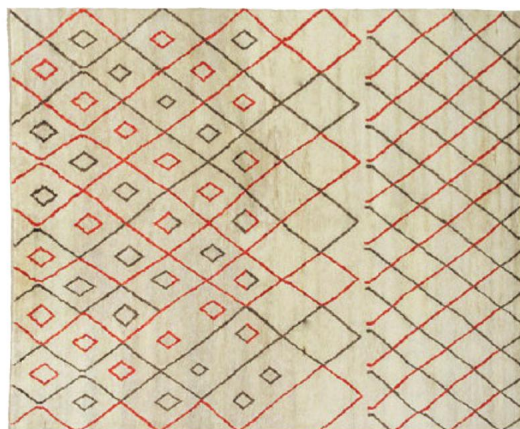


It's not made of gold or diamonds but it's worth a million in style. **Barbara Barry for Baker Diamond Chest, \$10,500, studioBhome.com**



Rich golden velvet adds a luxe touch to the bed or sofa. **Studded Velvet Pillow Cover, \$25, WestElm.com**

Diamonds are forever. **Hand-knotted Royal Maroc Light Wool Rug, 8'x10', \$1,050, eCarpetGallery.com**



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Add a sexy gold tray and you've got the best-looking, multi-purpose piece of furniture for entertaining over the holidays. **Fillmore Ottoman, antique black leather, \$600, UrbanBarn.com**



You call it a planter, I call it a votive holder. **Colada Pineapple Vase, \$6, CB2.com**

## PLAY Yesterday's Answers

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THRE	AYEAR	LET	2	7	9	6	4	5	3	8	1
AGO	ARAS	YUM	4	9	6	3	2	1	8	5	7
LENTIL	LES	PART	8	5	2	9	7	6	4	1	3
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MOI	ALOHA	URNS	3	2	7	5	8	4	1	6	9
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Johnny Manziel is expected to start for the Browns (2-6) when they meet the undefeated Bengals (7-0) on Thursday night

# metr SPORTS

## McDavid to count down the months from sideline

### OILERS

### Rookie out indefinitely with broken collarbone

Edmonton Oilers rookie phenom Connor McDavid was expected to undergo surgery Wednesday to repair a broken left collarbone, with a recuperation period expected to stretch into months.

"He'll be out indefinitely," Oilers general manager Peter Chiarelli told a news conference at Rexall Place.

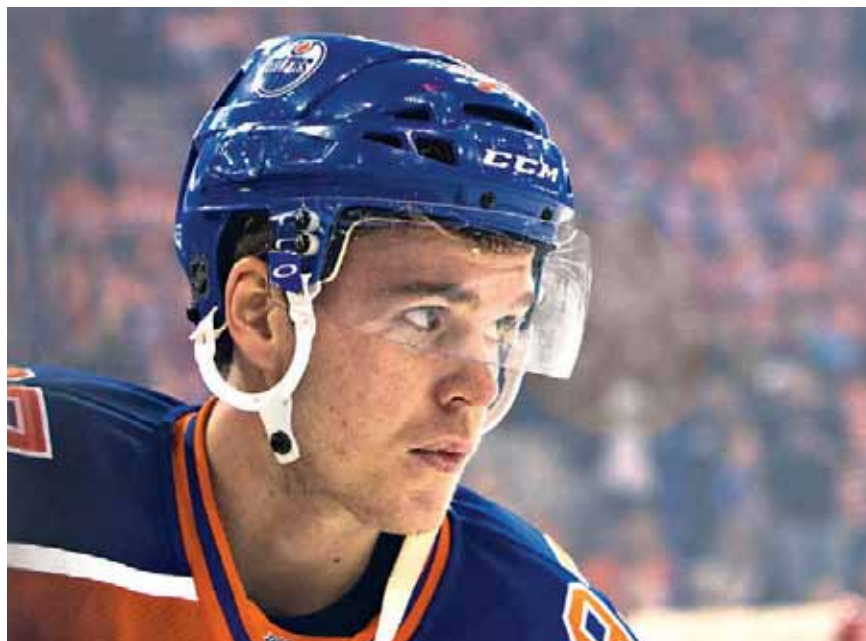


**Peter Chiarelli**  
THE CANADIAN PRESS

"We're talking about months. We don't have a particular time frame, but as I said, plural, months. There will be plates and screws involved (in the surgery)."

McDavid was injured Tuesday night in the Oilers' 4-2 win over the Philadelphia Flyers.

Racing down the left wing toward the Flyers goal late in the second period, with Flyer defenders Brandon Manning and Michael Del Zotto beside him, McDavid appeared to lose the edge on his skate.



Connor McDavid had racked up 12 points in his first 12 NHL games. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The trio fell and plowed hard into the end boards.

McDavid struggled to his feet and skated slowly to the bench.

"He didn't have much to say (after the game)," said Chiarelli.

"He was upset. He loves to play the game and he won't be playing it for a while."

He said McDavid has age and character on his side.

"The silver lining is that



**We're going to try and be there for him and make sure that he gets through it well.**

Taylor Hall

he's young, he's a strong kid mentally and physically, he's still developing so he'll come back probably even stronger," Chiarelli said.

"In my experience with these significant injuries with younger players they come back stronger."

McDavid went down in the 13th game of his rookie season, but in that time he had already

established himself as one of the key players and catalysts on the Oilers.

McDavid has five goals and 12 points in 12 games this season. He was named rookie of the month for October.

The Oilers are 5-8 and fighting to return to the playoffs for the first time in a decade.

"Injuries are a part of a hockey but to be out that long this early in his career, I'm sure he's pretty heartbroken," said winger Taylor Hall, the Oilers' leading goal scorer.

It's the latest in a string of injuries to key Oilers, including winger Jordan Eberle (shoulder) and defenceman Justin Schultz (back). Eberle is close to returning, and head coach Todd McLellan said the team will soldier on. "We've played without key people. Now we'll play without Connor," said McLellan.

Some fans took to social media to criticize Manning for appearing to grab McDavid on the way down.

McLellan said he didn't see it that way.

"It's a hockey play. You could watch it 100 times and there's nothing dirty about it," he said.

"When the pile of three went down it was self-survival. All three of them were in a dangerous situation with the boards coming at them very quick."

"(McDavid) caught a rut or he lost an edge and he went down. It happens." THE CANADIAN PRESS

### NHL IN BRIEF

#### Blues best Hawks in OT

Vladimir Tarasenko scored at 3:54 of a whistle-free overtime to give the St. Louis Blues a 6-5 come-from-behind win over Chicago on Wednesday night, handing the defending champion Blackhawks their first home loss this season.

Tarasenko, who also had an assist, beat Corey Crawford on the glove side from the slot for his seventh goal after taking a nifty behind-the-back centring pass from Alex Pietrangelo.

Alexander Steen scored twice for St. Louis, which allowed more than three goals for the first time this season.

Patrick Kane was among the goal scorers for Chicago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Jets double up on Leafs

Alexander Burmistrov atoned for two bad penalties, and the Winnipeg Jets made good on their vow to respond after a clunker in Montreal.

Burmistrov scored the game-winning goal out of the penalty box to give the Jets a 4-2 victory against the Toronto Maple Leafs on Wednesday night at Air Canada Centre.

Defenceman Dustin Byfuglien, cleared by the NHL after a hearing for a hit on Canadiens forward Brendan Gallagher, also scored.

Ondrej Pavelec stopped 24 of the 26 shots he faced for the Jets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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## IN BRIEF

**Two Eskimos honoured**

Edmonton Eskimos rookie Derel Walker and teammate Mike Reilly were named CFL top performers of the week Wednesday along with Ottawa Redblacks defensive lineman Shawn Lemon.

Walker caught three touchdown passes from Reilly in a 40-22 win over the Montreal Alouettes last week.

Walker had 10 receptions for 128 yards to move past the 1,000-yard mark for the season. Reilly completed 29 of 35 passes for 308 yards and added 16 rushing yards on six carries.

Lemon, meanwhile, had a pair of sacks in the Redblacks' 12-6 victory over the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

Both sacks resulted in fumbles.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Canada women win opener**

The Canadian women's hockey team opened the Four Nations Cup with a 2-0 win over Finland Wednesday.

Meghan Agosta of Ruthven, Ont., scored short-handed and Toronto's Natalie Spooner had an even-strength goal.

Emerance Maschmeyer of Bruderheim, Alta., earned a 17-save shutout.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Snowboard champ retires**

The first Canadian woman to win an Olympic gold medal on home soil is retiring.

Veteran snowboarder Maelle Ricker made the announcement Wednesday.

The 36-year-old from West Vancouver, B.C., won gold in snowboard cross at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# In praise of Pronger: Ex-Oiler joining Hall

## NHL

## Dominant D-man always was a winner

Chris Pronger helped get the Edmonton Oilers get one win away from the Stanley Cup final in 2006, but with his family unhappy living there, general manager Kevin Lowe went about trying to trade him.

At the following NHL draft, Oilers assistant GM Scott Howson put a piece of paper on four teams' tables. The one on the Anaheim Ducks' table listed a first-round pick, Ladislav Smid and Joffrey Lupul for Pronger, and immediately GM Brian Burke agreed.

Without enough salary-cap space for the next season, the trade was delayed until July, extending negotiations.

"(Lowe) said, 'If I do this, I'm punching your ticket to the finals,'" Burke recalled. "He knew what he was trading to us as an asset."

For a stretch of his career, Pronger was a human ticket to the Cup final. He helped the Oilers get close in 2006, was a key piece of the Ducks' championship in 2007 and then led the Philadelphia Flyers to another impres-

sive run to the Stanley Cup final in 2010 before they lost Game 6 to Chicago.

Counting world-junior gold for Canada in 1993 and Olympic gold in 2002 and 2010, Pronger was a winner throughout his career that will culminate in his Hall of Fame induction on Monday.

Oilers coach Craig MacTavish had played with Pronger on the St. Louis Blues. The price of defenceman Eric Brewer and prospects Doug

Lynch and Jeff Woywitka was well worth it, and so was the new five-year, \$31.5-million US contract.

Burke called Pronger Anaheim's "biggest hurdle" to a Cup, and he was that in the Western Conference final. When Lowe said that Pronger was going to get the Ducks to the Cup final, Burke agreed to send an ex-

66

**Chris is unique, and not just from the size and physical toughness standpoint.**

Paul Holmgren, former Philadelphia Flyers GM

tra conditional first-round pick to Edmonton.

"We knew it was a high price and a steep price, but to me how can you overpay for Chris Pronger?" said Burke, who's now president of hockey operations for the Calgary Flames.

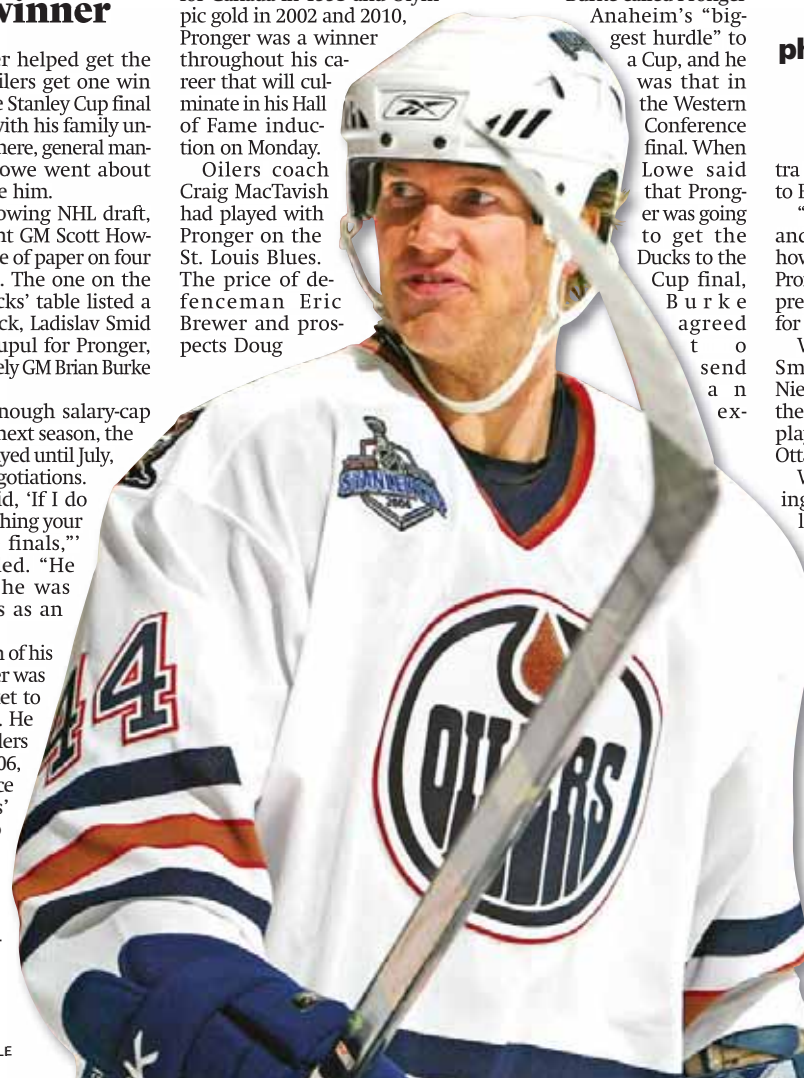
With Pronger and Conn Smythe defenceman Scott Niedermayer leading the way, the Ducks cruised through the playoffs and polished off the Ottawa Senators in five games.

With Pronger's contract coming to an end, the Flyers followed the same template as the 2006 deal, sending Lupul, a young defenceman (Luca Sbisa) and two first-round picks to the Ducks for an older but still formidable Pronger.

Pronger averaged 30 minutes of ice time and played all situations for the Cinderella Flyers.

Injuries derailed Pronger's career, and an accidental stick to the eye from Mikhail Grabovski caused concussion problems that forced him to stop playing. Now working in the NHL's department of player safety, he'll go into the Hall technically as an active player and technically with the Arizona Coyotes, who acquired his contract over the summer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Chris Pronger

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## RECIPE Turkey Meatloaf with Apples and Sage



PHOTO: MAMA YISYEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada



- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp ground pepper

### Directions

1. Preheat your oven to 400 F. Grease mini loaf pan or baking pan.
2. In a large skillet over moderate heat, add the butter, garlic and shallots and cook for 3 minutes.
3. Stir together apple chunks, bread crumbs and milk in a large bowl and set aside for 5 minutes. Add your turkey, egg, apple butter, sage, salt and pepper and garlic mixture to the milk and combine well. Spoon the meat mixture into your loaf tins.
4. Bake in the oven on the middle rack for about 50 minutes or until the internal temperature of a loaf reaches 160 F. In the last minute of cooking time, brush the tops with some apple butter. Remove the loaves from the oven and allow to rest for 5 minutes then serve.

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This dinner is a combination of all our favourite fall flavours. Make a double batch so you have some waiting in the freezer on a busy night.

### Ready in

Prep time: 60 minutes

### Serves 4

### Ingredients

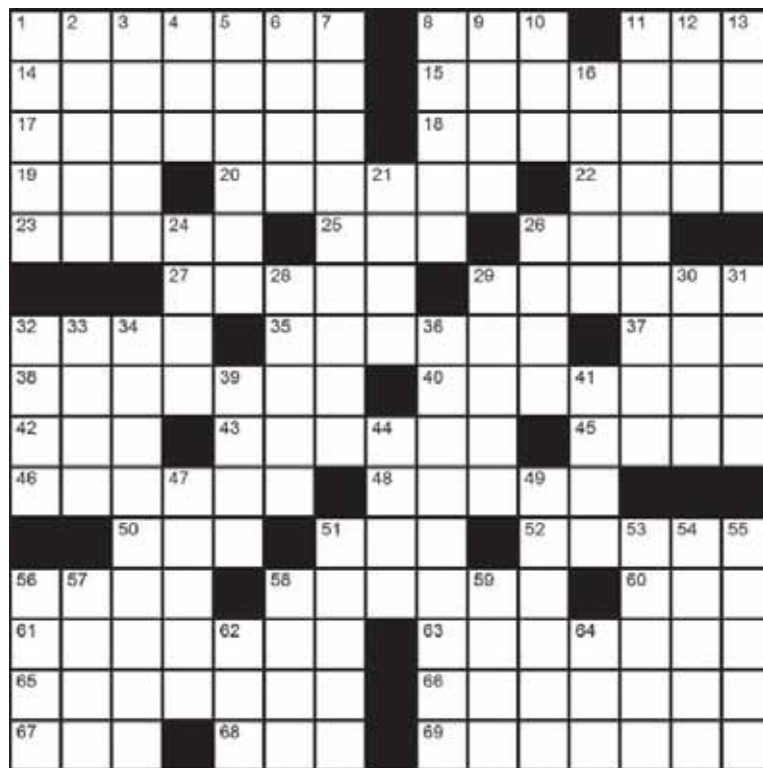
- 1 1/2 Tbsp butter
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 shallots, peeled and finely chopped
- 2 Gala apples, cored, peeled and sliced into small chunks
- 2/3 cup unseasoned bread crumbs
- 2/3 cup milk
- 2 lbs ground turkey meat
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 1/4 cup apple butter, plus an extra Tbsp for tops of loaves
- 2 Tbsp chopped fresh sage

## CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

### ACROSS

1. The new 007 movie
8. Research site
11. \_\_ boost
14. Skull-related
15. Lasting
17. Canadian comedian Mr. Peters
18. Prop for The Penguin
19. Chemical suffix
20. Readies oneself in golf: 2 wds.
22. Attend: 2 wds.
23. Prefix to 'frost'
25. American ailer since '71
26. Bucharest money
27. Not \_\_ in the world
29. Stinging nest pest
32. Russian ruler
35. Lizards like the GEICO commercials one
37. Deuce
38. Emmanuelle \_\_, Montreal-born actress
40. Antlered creature of European woodlands: 2 wds.
42. Ad \_\_ committee
43. Social news website
45. Sky bear
46. Flip the coin again
48. Ancient fabled man
50. Chg. card percentage
51. 1987 to 1994 'Star Trek' series, to fans
52. Paving stones
56. Gospel singer



- Ms. Winans
58. \_\_ crackers
60. '80s band
61. Political pundit Ms. Huffington with a 'Post' website
63. Like a coming-soon out of stock item: 2 wds.
65. Daytime TV...

- "General Hospital": 2 wds.
66. '60s band, Wayne \_\_ and The Mindbenders
67. Word before a bride's maiden name
68. Scale amts.
69. Gradually appears on the screen:

2 wds.

### DOWN

1. \_\_ paper
2. Trim
3. Reliever
4. Belonging to a Canuck train co.
5. Menswear accessory, variably: 2 wds.

6. Rattle
7. Vegan songstress in Crash Test Dummies born in Selkirk, Manitoba: 2 wds.
8. Madagas-car animal
9. On
10. Mr. Vereen
11. Come across
12. Mr. MacDermot (Canadian composer of Hair)
13. Margarine
16. "Understood."
21. On \_\_ (Without a contract)
24. Husband: French
26. Misplace
28. Chills
29. Owl's calls
30. Lamb mothers
31. 1970 war movie, when tripled!
32. Professor, puny-ly
33. Velcro closure locale
34. North Pole stuff: 2 wds.
36. Painter of Canadian nature scenes, Cornelius \_\_ (b.1815 - d.1872)
39. Alphabetic sequence
41. Trick
44. Mr. Carvey
47. "This world was never meant for \_\_ beautiful as you." - Don McLean, "Vincent"
49. Donny & Marie \_\_
51. Pitfalls
53. "Look, all done!" [pl.]
54. "\_\_\_" (Response to "What did you do next?")
55. Sandwich wrap brand
56. James or Scott
57. TV actress Kathryn
58. Annoying fly
59. Buffalo type
62. At present
64. Pathway [abbr.]

## ★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
If someone makes you a really good offer today, find out if there are any strings attached. If they are giving you something they will most likely require something in return.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
You may have to pay over the odds for something today but don't make a big deal of it. It's only money. Don't ruin what promises to be an otherwise enjoyable day.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
There is no point trying to keep a secret from those who know you best because they can read you like a book. No matter how embarrassing, own up to what you have done. Chances are they won't even care.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
Sometimes the best way to break bad news is to come right out with it. Try to let others down gently and it could prolong the agony — they might even turn against you.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
You won't be thinking straight, so avoid any spur of the moment decisions that will get you into trouble. Money matters, especially, must be approached with care.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
The more others pressure you to follow their example the more you must resist. You know what is best for you and anyone who doesn't respect your right to make your own decision must be told to take a hike.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
Avoid situations where you don't feel in control. And avoid people whose main aim seems to be controlling you. You are a free spirit and you are entitled to come and go as you please.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
Something is worrying you and you won't get over it by trying to put it out of your mind. The only way to deal with your fear is to face it and not be afraid of what you might find.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
Listen to your inner voice. If you let people persuade you that their aims should be your aims you will find yourself heading in a direction that takes you away from your goals.

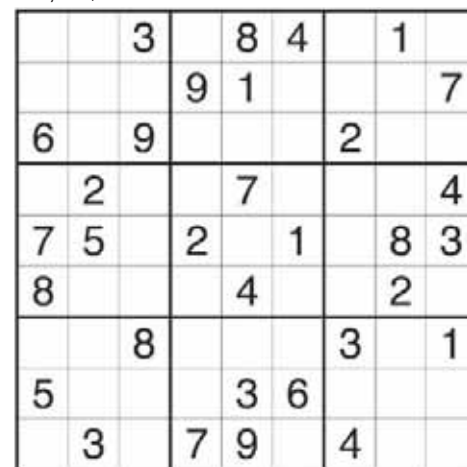
**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
Tread carefully when talking to loved ones. If they get the impression that you are telling them what to do they will react in a forceful way. Only give advice if it is asked for.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
Be on your guard today. There may be no logical reason why you should be suspicious but on a deeper level you seem to know that all is not as it seems. Above all, don't commit yourself.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
Someone will let you in on what they say is a secret but can you be sure they are not trying to mislead you? The planets warn that what they tell you will only be part of the story.

### CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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